Policies on Research Release and Salary Savings

Research Release takes place when funding from an external source (usually a grant or contract) is used to displace academic year salary and fringe. When this occurs the “released” salary is split 80/20 between the department and the School; the released fringe remains in the SOS. The department may use these funds in any way allowable for general fund expenditures. Departments can move these dollars to non-general fund accounts but only if the department’s general fund account is positive (in the black). If the salary release results from an approved grant line item involving a teaching reduction (“buy-out”), the department will be responsible for covering the costs of replacement instructors for the unmanned course(s) from its 80% portion.

Salary Savings are salary and fringe dollars that are freed up when a faculty member retires, resigns, goes on leave, or otherwise is no longer able to draw salary from the institution. Because salary dollars come from the School for new and replacement positions, they flow back to the School when they are no longer being expended.

Departments may request some of those funds for teaching replacement. To receive these funds departments must have exhausted (projected to be so) their school funding for adjuncts and have no carryover funds. The funds will be granted at the standard rate for adjunct hires in the Department. In some cases where there are multiple vacancies in the department, the School will consider hiring a Visiting Lecturer to pick up unmanned classes. This person would be expected to carry a 4 + 4 load for a 10 month appointment and contribute an additional 2 courses in summer for a 12 month appointment.

Exceptions to these general guidelines would require the approval of the Dean.